

Algebra I

Unit 1: From Patterns To Algebra

Pending Events: Unit 1 Test on Chapter 1 Friday, Sept. 12th

All Events: [Calendar](#)

September 12, 2008

Today we took the test. Those who finished early [ran some laps](#) . When everyone finished, we learned about [Supercorrections](#).

HW:

- Come to Mr. O'Brien's classroom at 2:15 Monday afternoon to collect your test. Spend one hour on your Supercorrections before Tuesday's class. They will be due by 2:15 next Friday afternoon.

September 10, 2008

Today was our revision day before the test next class. We began class by [running a few laps](#). We then practiced our puzzle solving skills with [leaping frogs](#) and looked for patterns in the puzzle. We corrected the quiz in class and linked each question back to a homework problem from p. 8. We spent some time correcting the homework due today and revising the triumvirate- **graphs, tables, equations**. We worked on [this order of operations puzzle](#) in groups, and ended with an order of operations Bingo game.

HW:

- p. 46/1-8, 13-21, 25, 29 [be sure to check and correct each problem *before* test day]
- Organize your homework- make sure each assignment is completely checked and corrected. The grading rubric is available here: [hw_policy.pdf](#).
- Come to the test relaxed, prepared, and with your homework, a pencil and a calculator.

September 8, 2008

We began class with the quiz. We then discussed the homework from last class and finished with notes on graphing. Important vocabulary included coordinate plane, origin, axes, and quadrants. We practiced plotting points using [Billy Bug](#) . We also worked with three examples converting between tables and graphs and equations and back again.

HW:

- Unit 1 Test Friday on Chapter 1 in text (excluding 1.6)
- p. 27/27-33 odd, 39
- p. 34/9, 13-21 odd, 30, 36-39, 45, 46

Table of Contents
Unit 1: From Patterns To Algebra
September 12, 2008
September 10, 2008
September 8, 2008
September 4, 2008
September 2, 2008
Thursday, August 28th
Archive

September 4, 2008

We began class with [this problem](#) . It led to a discussion of order of operations, expressions, and equations. We then finished discussing the Course Methodology and went over the homework from p. 8. We discussed the order of operations further and took notes (for additional review, take a look at [this website](#) from class). We then used [this applet](#) to further practice with order of operations- the applet helped to reinforce the idea of equality of expressions which is so key in algebra.

HW:

- Quiz Monday on section 1.1
- p. 16/11-21 odd, 37-39
- p. 21/[19-41 odd- show steps], 43-47 odd, 51, 53, 63, 64

September 2, 2008

We began class with the homework quiz. Following the quiz, we went over the Course Methodology and discussed expectations for class. We then began examining some sequences of numbers to find patterns. We explored first and second differences and saw how they could help us make predictions for number sequences. We finished with a look at the textbook and talked about how to format homework assignments.

HW:

- p. 8/ 12-15, 20, 21, 32, 36-39 (without a calculator)

Thursday, August 28th

We thought about the following...

For each of the following problems, first estimate an answer and then try to calculate an answer using your mathematical skills.

1. When was one million seconds ago? How about one billion seconds ago? For more on this problem, [click here](#) .
2. If a piece of paper could be folded in half fifty times, how high would the stack of paper be? For more on this problem, [click here](#) .
3. Suppose a string were tied tight around the earth. If one additional meter were added to the string, and the string was lifted the same distance off the surface of the earth, how high would it rise? For more on this problem, [click here](#) .

If you're interested in how we name large numbers, [click here](#) .

HW:

- Explore this class website- it would be a good idea to bookmark it.
- Create a Google Account by going [here](#) (you do not need to use Gmail, but you will need a Google Account for some class activities this year)
- Cover your text book.
- Read the course methodology and come to class prepared to discuss it (a copy is available on the [home page](#)).

- You will have a quiz next class on the above- be prepared!
- Give the parent/guardian letter to your parent/guardian (a copy is available on the [home](#) page).
- Please complete this [student information sheet](#) (plan on spending about half an hour on this- I would like some thought on some of the questions).

[Archive](#)

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